(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when Government are likely to finalise the proposal in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Proposal for enactment of Central Legislation for Building and Construction Workers is under consideration of the Government.

**Recommendations of the Committee on Petitions of the Eighth Lok Sabha on Construction Workers**

496. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Committee on Petitions of the Eighth Lok Sabha contained in its 12th report dated the 25th July, 1989 on construction workers have been implemented;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating introduction of a fresh and a comprehensive bill on the construction workers as recommended by the said committee; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to consult the National Campaign Committee on Central Legislation for Construction Labour headed by Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, while drawing up such a bill as advised by the said Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Proposal for enactment of a Central Legislation for Construction Workers *vis a vis* the recommendations of the Lok Sabha Committee on Petitions on the Petition of the National Campaign Committee is under consideration of Government.

**Checking of bonded labour in the country**

497. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite a legislative ban on the practice of bonded labour in the country, more than 2 lakh bonded labourers have been identified during the year 1990-91;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government machinery to check boded labour is not working effectively;

(d) what are the details of the States from where maximum bonded labourers have been identied; and

(e) what steps Central Government propose to take to deal with such practice effectively?

THE DEUPTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) (b) and (d) The details of number of identfied bonded labourers as reported by various States during the year 1990-91 is given in the statement. (*See* below).

(c) and (e) The responsibility for enforcing the provision of Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 rests with the State Governments. The Centre have

TOTAL.: 9972

ernments to intensify their efforts at identification and rehabilitation of bonded labour. The progress of State Governments in this matter is monitored regularly.

Statement

*The State-wise number of bonded labourers identified during* 1990-91.

| State | Number of bonded labourers identified during 1990-91 |
|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 1856 |
| Bihar | 33 |
| Karnataka | 5938 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 317 |
| Maharashtra | 41 |
| Orissa | 108 |
| Rajasthan | 126 |
| Tamil Nadu | 323 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1230 |
| Gujarat | Nil |
| Haryana | Nil |
| Kerala | Nil |
| Total | 9972 |

**Expert committee retport on pension scheme for journalists**

498. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the expert Committee's report on pension scheme for journalists and other employees of the newspapers and news agencies;

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by what time a decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) The report of the Expert Committee has been considered by the Central Board of Trustees Employees Provident Fund. The Board has recommended to the Government a Pension Scheme for all Provident Fund subscribers including Journalists and other employees of the newspaper establishments. The recommendations of the Board which are presently under consideration of the Government envisage amendment in the EPF & (MP) Act, 1952, hence no specific time limit for the final decision can be indicated.

**Setting up of an Inter-tate Coordination Cell for the migrant workers**

499. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from some of the Chief Ministers to set up an Inter-State Coordination Cell to deal with the problems faced by the migrant labourers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Conversion of provident fund into an elaborate pension scheme**

500. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to convert the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) into an elaborate pension scheme from 1993-94 onwards:

(b) whether Government propose to launch a new Investment Plan by which this fund's capital could be put into mutual funds and real estate;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons for changing of Provident Fund to pension scheme;

(d) whether Government's policy planners in the Labour Ministry have fully examined/considered all the recommendations made by the HOTA Committee and consulted Labour and Employees' Unions in the matter, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the above scheme would be beneficial to Government exchequer or employees as a whole?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The recommendations of the HOTA Committee have been considered by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund which is a tripartite body consisting of representatives from employers, employees and Government. The Board has recommended introduction of a suitable Pension Scheme for the members of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme. The recommendations of the Board are presently under consideration of the Government. The scheme is intended to be beneficial to the employees.

**Worker's Cooperations to Run Sick Public Sector Undertakings**

501. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI J. P. JAVALI:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: